



**Billing Code: 4150-41-P**

## **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

### **Charter Renewal of the Advisory Committee on Blood and Tissue Safety and Availability**

**AGENCY:** Office of HIV/AIDS and Infectious Disease Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Office of the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Health and Human Services is hereby giving notice that the charter for the Advisory Committee on Blood and Tissue Safety and Availability (ACBTSA) has been renewed.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. James Berger, Designated Federal Officer for the ACBTSA, Senior Advisor for Blood and Tissue Policy, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Health, Department of Health and Human Services, Mary E. Switzer Building, 330 C Street SW, Suite L100, Washington, DC 20024. Phone: (202) 795-7697; Fax: (202) 691-2102; Email: [ACBTSA@hhs.gov](mailto:ACBTSA@hhs.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** ACBTSA is a non-discretionary Federal advisory committee. ACBTSA is authorized under 42 U.S.C. 217a, Section 222 of the Public Health Service (PHS) Act, as amended. The Committee is governed by the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), Public Law 92-463, as amended (5 U.S.C. App), which sets forth standards for the formation and use of advisory committees.

The ACBTSA advises, assists, consults with, and makes policy recommendations to the

Secretary, through the Assistant Secretary for Health, regarding these broad responsibilities related to the safety of blood, blood products, tissues, and organs. For solid organs and blood stem cells, the Committee's work is limited to policy issues related to donor derived infectious disease complications of transplantation.

To carry out its mission, the ACBTSA provides advice to the Secretary through the Assistant Secretary for Health on a range of policy issues to include: (1) identification of public health issues through surveillance of blood and tissue safety issues with national biovigilance data tools; (2) identification of public health issues that affect availability of blood, blood products, and tissues; (3) broad public health, ethical, and legal issues related to the safety of blood, blood products, and tissues; (4) the impact of various economic factors (e.g., product cost and supply) on safety and availability of blood, blood products, and tissues; (5) risk communications related to blood transfusion and tissue transplantation; and (6) identification of infectious disease transmission issues for blood, organs, blood stem cells and tissues.

On September 25, 2018, the Secretary approved for the ACBTSA charter to be renewed. The new charter was effected and filed with the appropriate Congressional committees and the Library of Congress on October 9, 2018. Renewal of the Committee's charter gives authorization for the Committee to continue to operate until October 9, 2020.

A copy of the ACBTSA charter is available on the Committee's website at <https://www.hhs.gov/ohaidp/initiatives/blood-tissue-safety/advisory-committee/charter/index.html>. A copy of the charter can also be obtained by accessing the FACA database that is maintained by the Committee Management Secretariat under the General Services Administration. The website address for the FACA database is [www.facadatabase.gov](http://www.facadatabase.gov).

Dated: October 19, 2018.

**James J. Berger,**

*Senior Advisor for Blood and Tissue Policy,*

*Designated Federal Officer, Advisory Committee on Blood and Tissue Safety and Availability.*

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